FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 JULY 1983

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Iraq on a "sudden" visit that is also expected to take him to Kuwait next week, KUNA and INA reported. In Baghdad 'Arafat held talks with First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz on the "latest developments" in the Palestinian and Arab arena, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. During his upcoming visit to Kuwait, KUNA said, 'Arafat will discuss the question of the withdrawal of Fatah forces from Al-Biqa' and his deferred visit to the Soviet Union. He will "elaborate on the dimensions" of these topics in light of the postponement of his Moscow trip, which came as a "complete" surprise to the Arab capitals, KUNA added. The Voice of Lebanon, citing well-informed Palestinian sources, said the PLO is "indignant" about the Soviet stance on dissension in Fatah, particularly since it became apparent that the USSR is hinderingarms supplies to Fatah and calling on 'Arafat not to reach a "deadlock" in his relations with Syria.

Meanwhile, Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi continued his official visit to the USSR, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. The first round of talks with Soviet officials dealt with a wide range of issues and problems, including ways to "consolidate the Arab front against the Israeli occupation," the radio said, adding that the Soviet side praised the "clear and precise" analysis of the situation presented by the PLO delegation, steps taken to normalize matters "inside the Palestinian arena," and the wisdom used in tackling these matters. Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, citing Moscow radio, said Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko conveyed greetings to 'Arafat from Yuriy Andropov, CPSU General Secretary and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. Monitored Soviet media have not been observed to report Gromyko conveying Andropov's greetings to the PLO leader.

In another development, Palestinian dissident leader Abu Khalid al-'Amlah said 'Arafat is trying to "Arabize" and internationalize the inter-Palestinian conflict and thus avoid carrying out his "true responsibility" toward what the dissidents are proposing, according to a statement to the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* cited by SANA. 'Arafat's accusations that Syria or Libya play a role in the dissident movement are "completely" untrue, Abu Khalid added.

Lebanon

Al-Wazzan on Partial Withdrawal — Lebanon is not prepared to accept the Lebanese-Israeli agreement if Israel's withdrawal from Lebanese territory is not complete, Beirut radio quoted Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan as saying in a television interview. The United States has been informed that attempts to delay or reject the withdrawal, he said, absolve Lebanon of the agreement. Meanwhile, the Tel Aviv daily *Ha'aretz* said recent contacts between Israeli and Lebanese representatives in an attempt to convince the Lebanese Government to agree in principle to an IDF redeployment along the Al-'Awwali River have not yet produced an agreement. Lebanon is concerned that its Army will not be capable of controlling the large area evacuated by the IDF, the paper said, adding that the Lebanese do agree to a "less significant" withdrawal. Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens thinks that the redeployment should be done in stages and not all at once. The paper said "political elements" in Jerusalem think that a decision in principle will be made before Prime Minister Menahem Begin's trip to Washington.

Junblatt on Resistance — Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt said if an "internal" Lebanese political agreement is not reached and the Lebanese Army enters the Ash-Shuf mountain area after a partial IDF withdrawal, the PSP and its allies will be forced to resist the Lebanese Army and prevent its entry, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Junblatt also said that preparations are under way to form an opposition front against the authorities and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Military, Security Situation — The IDF evacuated a position in Khaldah, removing a "large number" of tanks from the area, according to Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio. In another development, four Druze were killed and four Lebanese Army personnel wounded in a clash between the Druze and the Army in 'Alayh, Beirut Voice of Lebanon and IDF radios reported. It was regarded as a "desperate" attempt to hinder the restoration of legitimate authority over the areas occupied by foreign armies, Voice of Lebanon said.

Syria

Syria has not yet made an official decision on a possible visit to the U.S. by an official delegation, according to Radio Monte Carlo citing "authoritative" sources in Damascus. In another development, five people died as a result of clashes that broke out in Damascus between Iranian revolution guards and Syrian intelligence personnel, according to Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio.

Iran

Khomeyni Will — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni announced that he has prepared a 30-page will which he will leave with the Council of Experts to be released on his death, IRNA stated in a report on Khomeyni's message to the inaugural session of the council. Following the reading of Khomeyni's message, Ayatollah Mohammad Reza Mahdavi-Kani reported on the council elections and charged that enemies using "tricks" tried to stop the elections from taking place, Tehran radio reported.

Khomeyni-Martyrs' Families — Khomeyni met with martyrs' families on 14 July, Tehran radio's Arabic service announced.

Foundation Head's Resignation — Mahmud Karimi-Nuri, head of the Foundation for War Refugee Affairs, resigned, blaming the "inadequacy" of and "distortions" in the law on the foundation, Tehran radio stated. The resignation was accepted by the interior minister who expects him, however, to remain at his post until the situation is clarified.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

The Iraqi commander in the Shatt al-'Arab area in a statement to the press said his forces are prepared to repulse a "likely" Iranian attack, INA reported. He stressed that Iranian units will become "food for fish" in the Shatt al-'Arab if they attack Iraqi territorial waters. On the battlefront, Iraq shelled Abadan with long-range heavy artillery, Ahvaz radio announced, adding that retaliatory fire against Iraqi forces in the western sector of Arvand Rud inflicted "considerable casualties."

Meanwhile, a Kuwaiti delegation is to visit Moscow on 25 July in a bid to contain the Iran-Iraq war, which is "beginning to threaten the Arab Gulf peoples," KUNA said citing press reports. The reports express conviction that the USSR can influence the course of the war because of its proximity and because of the adverse effect the war might have on its interests.

Afghanistan

Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, is staying in the USSR for "medical examinations" after stopping over with a DRA delegation in Tashkent on the way back from an official visit to Mongolia, Kabul radio announced. Earlier, at a Mongolian-DRA friendship rally in Ulaanbaatar 12 July, Karmal said "positive" results can be expected in the talks with Pakistan, the Mongolian press agency MONTSAME reported. Iran's stand on relations with the DRA was "regrettable," Karmal said, and expressed his belief that unwillingness to cooperate is tantamount to "hostility" toward the region.

Libya-Chad

JANA refuted Chadian claims that Libyans were captured in the fighting in Chad, calling the allegations "mere hypocrisy and fabrications" and challenging Hissein Habre's supporters to supply proof.

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Delegation Returns; Karmal Stays in USSR for Medical
LD141528 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, and members of the high-ranking DRA party and state delegation who accompanied Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, on his visit to the People's Republic of Mongolia returned to Kabul today after a short stop in Tashkent. Babrak Karmal is staying in the Soviet Union for a series of medical examinations.

Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Mohammad Aslan Watanjar, member of the Politburo and minister of communications; Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and secretary; Niaz Mohammad Mohmand and Mir Saheb Karwal, secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee; members of the Party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers; the Mongolan charge d'affaires in Kabul;and the Soviet charge d'affaires welcomed the delegation at Kabul airport.

UN Head Meets With Pakistani, Afghan Envoys in NY
BK150944 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text]The UN secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, met with the Pakistan ambassador, Mr S. Shah Nawaz, in New York yesterday to evaluate the UN-sponsored indirect talks held in Geneva to seek a political solution to the Afghanistan problem.

Mr Shah Nawaz told Mr Perez de Cuellar that the Government of Pakistan considers as very important the indirect talks on Afghanistan being conducted under the UN auspices, Pakistani officials said. He assured full support from Pakistan in this regard and expressed the hope that the Geneva talks will come to a successful conclusion.

Later, a UN spokesman said that the UN secretary general also held discussions with the Babrak Karmal representative, Farid Zarif, on the same subject.

Karachi Reports New Clashes in Four Provinces
BK150935 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] There are reports of fresh clashes between the Afghan mujahidin and Soviet-Karmal forces in four provinces of Afghanistan. More than 100 Soviet-Karmal soldiers are reported to have been killed in these clashes.

The mujahidin launched Ghazni Provinces. They also attacked Soviet-Karmal military convoys in various parts of these provinces.

Ershad To Leave for Maldives, Sri Lanka 26 July

BK150751 Dhaka BSS in English 0610 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Dhaka, July 15 (BSS) — The president of the Council of Ministers Lt. Gen. H.M. Ershad will pay a 5-day official visit to Maldives and Sri Lanka beginning July 26, it was announced here yesterday. Bangladesh Foreign Office in an announcement said Gen. Ershad will be in Maldives capital, Male, from July 26 to July 28 on official visit at the invitation of President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom. The two leaders are expected to discuss matters of mutual interest covering international, regional and bilateral issues, the announcement added. President Gayoom visited Bangladesh in March this year before he went to New Delhi to attend non-aligned summit.

Gen. Ershad's official visit to Sri Lanka begins on July 28 at the invitation of its president, J.R. Jayewardene. The two heads of government will hold discussions on matters of mutual interest and also on matters covering both international and regional issues.

Doha Leaves for Tehran, To Talk With Velayati

BK140639 Dhaka BSS in English 0613 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] Dhaka, July 14 (BSS) — Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha left here last night for Tehran on a three-day official visit at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart, Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Minister Doha and Dr. Velayati will hold discussions on a wide range of international issues as well as matters of regional and bilateral interest.

Communications Minister Leaves for Pyongyang

BK140649 Dhaka BSS in English 0615 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] Dhaka, July (BSS) — Minister for Communications Rear Admiral M.A. Khan left here last night for Pyongyang on a week-long visit to North Korea.

Admiral Khan told reporters prior to departure that the visit was the manifestation of friendship and good will between the governments and peoples of the two countries.

He said the visit was expected to provide him with an opportunity to exchange views with Korean (DPRK) leaders on matters of mutual interest. It would also provide him a chance to see some of the achievements made in the DPRK under "chuche idea" which he maintained was more or less synonymous to Bangladesh drive for self-reliance.

Referring to the two-Korea issue, Admiral Khan said Bangladesh considers that "the most important objective in connection with the Korean question is the maintenance of peace and security of the Korean peninsula leading to ultimate reunification of the Korean people." He reiterated Bangladesh's full support to the principles enunciated in the joint communique signed by both North and South Korea in 1972 stressing on independence, peaceful re-unification and national unity of the Korean people.

Admiral Khan hoped the visit would make significant contribution to the development of bilateral relations between the two countries.

Admiral Khan's visit also coincided with the visit of DPRK Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Kim Yong-sop to Bangladesh from July 17 to 19.

Upcoming Commonwealth Meeting Discussed

BK131650 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jul 83

[Text] Over 40 heads of state or government are expected to attend the Commonwealth summit being held in Delhi in November. The Commonwealth secretary general, Mr Ramphal, is now in the capital to discuss the arrangements for the conference.

Talking to newsmen today, he expressed the hope that the conference will act to the possibilities of finding a solution to the present world economic crisis. Mr Ramphal described the present economic crisis as the worst in living memory. He said the Commonwealth summit would provide a push to the efforts to rescue world economy from the brink of a precipice. He said that the Commonwealth is preparing a report on the system of finance and trade in various countries. This could form the basis for discussions on the issue of reforming the Bretton Woods system. The Commonwealth study will be circulated among the various governments next month and later it will be discussed by the finance ministers who are meeting in Trinidad in September. He pointed out that for most governments who will be attending the Delhi summit, the outcome of the UNCTAD VI was a disappointment.

In reply to a question, Mr Ramphal said Pakistan has not applied for entry into the Commonwealth. If the issue comes up at the conference, it will be for the heads of government to take a decision collectively. He said the question did not figure in his discussions with Mrs Gandhi. Mr Ramphal indicated that there might be some forward movement on the Namibian issue by the time the Commonwealth summit meets. The issue, he said, is very high in the priorities of the summit. He also said that the international sporting boycott has hurt the South Africans very much. He wanted sportsmen to know that the sacrifices they made have been effective.

Narasimha Rao Set To Visit Iran From 18 July

BK141355 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] An Indian delegation led by the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, will pay a 5-day visit to Iran from Monday [18 July]. It will discuss bilateral relations between India and Iran and attend the inaugural session of the joint commission of the two countries.

An official spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi today that the delegation will include senior officials of the External Affairs Ministry and representatives of the Ministries of Commerce, Health, Steel and Mines and departments of economic affairs and tourism and the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company. The discussion of the joint commission will cover subjects like industry, trade, science and technology, education, culture and information.

Gandhi Says Opposition Supporting Agitators

BK150946 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] The prime minister has strongly criticised the opposition for supporting the agitations without thinking of the effects they will have on the country's unity, development and economy. Mrs Gandhi was addressing a meeting of Congress-I workers in Bangalore today. Without mentioning any opposition party by name, she said the question is whether India can hold together if separatist movements are encouraged. There is no point in haggling over whether the word separatist is used or not. One has to consider the reaction that follows such demands. People must also ask what are the intentions of those elements within the country and outside which are supporting these movements.

Minister Repeats Call for Dialogue With Akalis

BK141614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] The home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, has reiterated that the doors are open for talks with the Akalis to settle their demands. He regretted that they have chosen the path of confrontation leading to violence.

He was addressing the parliamentary consultative committee of his ministry in New Delhi today. Mr Sethi pointed out that while the religious demands of the Sikh community have already been accepted, the government is making earnest efforts to amicably settle the remaining issues of sharing Ravi-Beas waters and territorial adjustments. The home minister outlined the steps taken to maintain communal peace and harmony in Punjab, but he deplored that the Akali leaders are not cooperating with the state government in taking action against extremists and wanted persons who are reported to be hiding in the Golden Temple complex, Amritsar, and other places of worship.

About the demand of some members for publication of a white paper on the Punjab situation, Mr Sethi said there is no necessity for this as all the facts about the problem are well known. Opposition members unanimously demanded that the government should stop what they called the policy of drift and firmly deal with antinational and secessionist elements. They also wanted that the religious places should not be allowed to be used for harboring criminals and for political purposes.

On the two pending demands, Mr Sethi told the members that the center has offered to set up tribunals headed by supreme court judges to resolve the disputes regarding sharing of Rabi-Beas waters and territorial adjustment. However, no positive response has been received from the Akalis. About the All-India Gurdawara [Sikh Temples] Act, the home minister disclosed that the center is already in touch with the chief ministers of the concerned states and the management of the Gurdawaras concerned on this issue.

During the [word indistinct], a member described the situation in Punjab as very serious and wanted the government to inquire into the incidents in Jullundur. Some members suggested that the government should come out with a white paper to make the people aware of the issues involved. There was a demand for setting up an inter-state council under the constitution.

Commission To Look Into Recent Assam Disturbance

BK150950 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] In Assam, a commission of inquiry has been appointed to go into the recent disturbances in the state. Mr (T.P. Tiwari), a retired Indian Administrative Service officer is the chairman of the commission. A notification to this effect was issued by the state government in Gauhati yesterday. The commission will look into the circumstances leading to the disturbances in Assam from January to April this year. It will also examine the measures taken by the concerned authorities to deal with the disturbances. The commission will also suggest measures to prevent such incidents in future. It has to submit its report within 6 months.

Punjab Governor on Effort To Round Up Extremists

BK150948 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] The chief minister of Punjab, Mr Darbara Singh, has said that the government has identified the extremist elements in the state. In an interview broadcast over the Simla station of All India Radio this morning, he said that some of the extremists have been apprehended and efforts are on to round up others. He said that the relation among various communities in Punjab is cordial as ever and there is no question of people feeling insecure. Despite the Akali agitation, agricultural and industrial production in the state registered a considerable increase during the past 2 years.

Farooq Abdullah on Relations With Center

BK140834 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, has said that he did not want any confrontation with the center and (?was sincere) to keep up good relations with it.

Addressing a public meeting in Srinagar on Martyrs Day yesterday, he said the center should help him to remove poverty in the state. According to an agency report, Dr Farooq Abdullah said that if the center continues to challenge his duly elected government it would give rise to disastrous consequences.

Industrial Cooperation Pact Signed With USSR

BK131452 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Jul 83

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have worked out four programs of industrial and technical cooperation for the period 1983-88. These have been included in a protocol signed last weekend in Moscow.

Under this new cooperation program, engineering and project assistance will be rendered jointly to third countries. The meeting of the joint working group on cooperation in heavy machine building concluded its fourth session today.

Briefs

Rice Purchase — India is to buy 50,000 tons of raw rice from Burma. The shipment will begin toward the end of this month and the entire quantity will be shipped from Burma by the end of next month. Giving this information in New Delhi today an official spokesman said this is being done to replenish the stock of rice with the government. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Jul 83 BK]

Tea to Iran — New Delhi, July 13 (AFP) — Iran has placed export orders for over 7.5 million kilos of Indian tea to be shipped immediately, it was reported today. Chairman of the government-owned State Trading Corporation (STC) P.K. Das Gupta told PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency in Calcutta that the orders were secured during the visit of a specially dispatched STC team to Iran. It was likely Iran would purchase a similar quantity later this year, he added. Mr. Das Gupta did not mention the price paid by Iran but said it was "remunerative" and "much above the earlier price barrier." [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0834 GMT 13 Jul 83]

NEPAL

Thapa Supporters Head Key Panchayat Committees

BK141447 Hong Kong AFP in English 1425 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] Katmandu, July 14 (AFP) — Legislators loyal to ousted Premier Surya Bahadur Thapa were today unamimously elected at the head of five important committees of the National Panchayat, the country's unicameral legislature, official sources said.

These committees of the National Panchayat are seen as important bodies which can be used to harass the government.

Bhagbati Das Shrestha was elected the chairman of the economic committee, a high-powered body which scrutinises public finances and the national budget.

Tejeb Gauchan was elected unopposed to the chairmanship of the water resources committee while Karna Bahadur Singh was elected chairman of the development committee.

Appointed to the chairmanship of the social committee was Karna Bahadur Dhimal while Ram Chandra was elected chairman of the Panchayat committee.

The five pro-Thapa new chairmen, who previously held junior ministerial posts, however voted, under the pressure of certain groups, in favor of the no-confidence motion against Mr Thapa.

Mr Thapa was ousted by a no-confidence vote in the National Panchayat on Monday for alleged "inefficiency and his failure" to stem rampant corruption.

King Birendra appointed Lokendra Bahadur Chand as the country's new premier.

SRI LANKA

President To Inform Parties of Proposed Conference

BK141124 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] The secretaries of all political parties represented in parliament will be informed by President Jayewardene of the proposed roundtable conference to discuss how to eliminate terrorism in the north and east.

This meeting of all political parties is to solicit their cooperation to stamp out terrorism. A national strategy will be worked out in the conference which will be put into operation immediately. The proposed date of the conference, according to informed sources, will be the 28th of this month.

President Asked To Release Tamil Leaders

BK141439 Colombo Weekend in English 3 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] Tamil United Liberation Front and opposition leader A. Amirthalingam yesterday telegraphed President J.R. Jayewardene asking that Tamil Eelam Liberation Front [TELF] leaders Dr. S. Dharmalingam and Kovai Mahesan be released and more Tamil officers be posted in Trincomalee.

In one telegram Mr. Amirthalingam has said that the arrest and detention of the President of the TELF Dr Dharmalingam and its Secretary Kovai Mahesan "is totally unjustified" because they had called for a hartal [strike] to show the feeling of the Tamils of Jaffna against the attacks on Tamils at Trincomalee.

The *Weekend* learns that the two were taken in for questioning following their call for a hartal on which day the "Yal Devi" [a train] was burnt by some unknown persons.

In a second telegram Mr Amirthalingam has requested the President to send more senior Tamil officers and lower rankers to instil confidence among Tamils since the number of Tamil officers sent to Trincomalee is inadequate.

"I just returned after personally studying the situation in Trincomalee. Reports of violence by both sides are incorrect. Over 16 people killed are all Tamils. Forty people are in hospital, seriously injured. About 150 houses have been burnt and over 95 percent are Tamil houses. Nearly one thousand people have been dehoused and are in refugee camps," the telegram states.

Mahdavi-Kani Addresses Council of Experts Session

LD141213 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Excerpt] According to reports, at 1015 during the opening ceremony of the Council of Experts, the will and testament of the great leader of the Islamic Revolution and the hope of the oppressed people of the world was sealed by Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani and was adorned with a strip in the three colors of the flag of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to the same report, after Imam Khomeyni's message was read, Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani, the official in charge of the central commission supervising the elections of the Council of Experts, made a speech. Referring to the importance of this assembly in the history of Islam and the Islamic Revolution, he described the role of leadership and imamate in divinity and ideologies. He said:

In these ideologies people pledge their allegiance to an imam who in addition to leadership also plays the role of velayat [spiritual leadership or vice regency of the hidden imam]. In the Islamic Revolution the people pledged general allegiance to the imam of the nation, and the same will be true regarding the future leader or council of leadership.

He emphasized: May God bestow long life upon the imam of the nation and that the need will not arise for us to put his will and testament into operation and that he himself will be able to continue his leadership and imamate.

Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani also submitted a report about the elections and the formation of the Council of Experts and added: With various tricks the enemies tried to prevent these elections from being held. However, with the will of Almighty God, the experts from among the people were chosen.

Ayatollah Khomeyni Message to Council of Experts

LD150942 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Message from Ayatollah Khomeyni marking inauguration of Council of Experts on 14 July, read by his son Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. With the support of the exalted God Almighty and with the backing of the holy saint of God and the desire of God, may our lives be sacrificed for his advent, and in accordance with principle No 107 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran the blessed Council of Experts — which, thanks to the votes cast by the great Iranian nation, a number of learned ulema and Islamic authorities, may God's peace be upon them, has been elected to determine the leader or the leadership council — is hereby inaugurated. This assembly is to play a fundamental role in perpetuating the system of the Islamic Republic and imparting religious legality to it. It is an assembly on which the lovers of Islam and the Islamic Republic have set their hearts and the opponents and foes of Islam and the Islamic Republic, have fixed their gaze.

Those people who have set their hearts on Islam and the Islamic Republic, their representatives are among the committed ulema, they are aware of our interests and aims. It is with their blessed votes that the most worthy, vigilant, and committed canonist or canonists will be chosen for this position to safeguard and guide the system of the Islamic Republic in a worthy manner in accordance with the holy shari'a. It is they who, armed with faith in the presence of God Almighty and his supervision, may he be exalted, will place his will above their own and that of others.

Those who have fixed a covetous gaze are doing so in order to attempt to bring about a blunder by means of their agents, God forbid, whereby they would drive the Islamic system into deviation in the future. We know that the superpowers and governments subservient to them are not against imperial or monarchist Islam, but rather support and back it. They would give their total support to an Islam represented by their diabolical agents, who may through ignorance be disguised as ulema — under whom the ulema of Islam and Muslims would not interfere in the political and social affairs of Muslims and should not attach importance to the affairs of Muslims — who would ignore the mandatory rule of intellect based on the Koran, would demean the tradition of the public's (?affairs) being in the hands of the ulema and God, and who would deem meaningless the honorable tradition and other similar traditions. What better thing is there than tying the hands of dedicated ulema and vigilant Muslims by these pseudoreligious courtiers and dupes who are unaware of the devil's political games and thus to pave the way for the superpowers' plunder and hegemony. They like an Islam that supports them, but they are afraid of the Islam of 'Ali ibn Abi Talib, may God's benedictions and peace be upon him.

If the martyr who had given his heart to Islam and the true Islamic scholar thought as these people do and devoted himself to the worship of God in a solitary spot, and if he traversed no path except that leading from his home to the mosque, neither the battles of Siffin and (Al-Jamal) or the battle of [name indistinct] would have taken place, and Muslims would have been killed and martyred in their thousands. If the great martyr, may peace be upon him, thought as these people do and confined himself to praying and chanting hymns by the grave of his grandfather, the great tragedy of Karbala' would not have come about, the Almighty's worthy friends would not have been dismembered and the people of God would not have been taken captive. Above all, if the most noble apostle, may God's benedictions and peace be upon him and his scion, thought like these people and confined himself to counselling and expounding the rules of worship, he would not have suffered so many hardships and so many Muslims would not have been martyred. Among the contemporary ulema, if the great late Ayatollah Agha Mirza Mohammad Taqi Shirazi with his lofty position, knowledge, piety, and chastity, thought like these people a war would not have taken place in Iraq between the Muslims and the aggressor, usurping British; all those Mulsims would not have been martyred and Iraq's independence would not have been secured.

Those governments that are at present wholeheartedly serving the superpowers and Israel in the name of Islam and who are instrumental in securing their interests in the world, and the God-forsaken clergymen who are supporting them and opposing the Islamic regime and are striving toward destroying Islam —

which is belligerent to the oppressors in the well-known manner of the apostle of God, may God's benedictions and peace be upon him — who aim to raise aloft the banner of imperial and monarchist Islam and to deprive dedicated Muslims from performing the rites of pilgrimage for no other crime except that of complaining against U.S. and Israeli oppression — they must enjoy the support of the USSR, the United States, and Israel.

Now, jurisconsult of the Council of Experts and representatives of the oppressed nation throughout the period of monarchy and monarchical tyranny, you have accepted a responsibility that is the greatest of all responsibilities. You have started a venture upon which the fate of Islam depends, the afflicted and bereaved nation which has bestowed so many martyrs. History and future generations will pass judgment on you and the illustrious saints are watching your thoughts and deeds. And God is behind them, encompassing. [Koranic quotation] The least slackness and compromise, the slightest expression of personal views and, God forbid, the slightest submission to carnal desires which may cause deviation in this noble divine cause will give rise to the greatest catastrophe in history.

If the beloved Islam and the sapling Islamic Republic are deviated from their course, if they are delivered blows and end in defeat, then, God forbid, Islam will be relegated for centuries to a position of forgetfulness and will be replaced with kings and Arab rulers.

You, the representatives of the oppressed people, are fully aware that as the result of cutting off the hands of the plundering superpowers from your Islamic country, they and their associates have felt the nature of Islam and its divine power. Like a wounded viper, they are lying in hiding to deviate this divine order from its proper course in any way they can, either by themselves or through their ungodly agents. The greatest deviation, which will bring about deviation in all the organizations, will be the deviation of the leadership, the first generation of which you constitute.

You witnessed and heard the opposition that was raised to the fifth principle of the Constitution, and the havoc this gave rise to. But, thanks to God Almighty, they did not succeed in implementing their mission. Recently, they even opposed the election of the experts and spread poisonous propaganda but, thanks to God, again they failed. Even today you should not neglect the evil of the sorcerers and slanderers. Continue your path with divine power, with commitment to the great Islam and with the strength of your faith and spirit. You should think of nothing except the well-being of Islam and Muslims. If you do so, Almighty God will provide you with his support and succour.

It is necessary for me to offer a brotherly and sincere reminder to the esteemed future leader or to the leadership council. In divine religions and in the great Islam, leaders or leadership do not possess any intrinsic value and should not, God forbid, lead to pride and self-glorification. This is something which our lord, 'Ali ibn Abu Talib, has warned us against. Holy men and God's envoys, may God's peace and blessings be upon them, were given the mission of serving the servants of God, to lead them to guidance and spirituality, to lead the people from darkness into light, to serve the wronged and oppressed people and to establish personal and social justice.

You who regard yourselves as followers of the recipients of inspiration and illustrious saints should not regard yourselves as anything except servants of the oppressed. You should know that evil-doers and criminals have directed their malice against you more than anybody else; through their infiltrating, deviated agents in your midst, who adopt Islamic and revolutionary guises, they may, God forbid, bring about a catastrophe and by carrying out deviated actions bring about the deviation of the entire system and deliver blows at Islam and the Islamic Republic through your hands. Take care in choosing your associates; take care in showing haste in your decisions, especially in important issues. You should know, and you do know, that man is not free from faults and mistakes. As soon as you become aware of a fault or mistake, retract from it and confess to your mistake, because this constitutes man's perfection. Insistence upon a mistake or trying to justify it are wrong and are works of the devil. Consult the experts in important ventures and always take the side of caution.

I have written certain points in 30 pages in the form of my will and testament, and I entrust a copy of it to the blessed Council of Experts to be published after my death. [sound of weeping] I humbly beseech God Almighty to bestow greater glory upon the great Islam and to bestow unity to Islamic nations for the sake of safeguarding Islamic honor, (?to assist them in the greater protection of Islam), and to endow upon us the grace of his holiness the remnant of God, may God hasten his auspicious advent and may our lives be sacrified at his feet. God's peace be upon the pious.

[Dated] 14 July 1983

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni

Radio Iran on Support, Opposition to Montazeri

GF101502 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] According to our news sources, the effort of the Tudeh'i religious figures to get Mullah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri selected as the successor continues. This very thing is to be discussed at the first session of the Council of Experts this Thursday. While some of the religious factions of the government including the hojjatiyeh are insisting on the formation of a leadership council, the imamis, led by Mullah Hashemi-Rafsanjani, have started extensive activities and are attempting to use their influence.

We also have received a report that a number of Majlis deputies have threatened to withdraw their support of the regime should Montazeri be selected as Khomeyni's replacement.

Petroleum Minister Explains Stand on OPEC Issues

GF150830 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Petroleum Minister Gharazi has explained the current situation of oil production and prices in the international market and the stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran on OPEC issues.

In a press interview attended by local and international correspondents on the eve of the OPEC ministerial meeting to be held in Helsinki, Finland, on Monday, Gharazi referred to the current situation in the oil market. He said: Iran already announced 2 years ago that if the OPEC production level was determined, and the OPEC member countries abided by their production allocations and did not reduce oil prices the market situation would improve and become satisfactory. He added that following the OPEC decisions made on these matters, the reports of the committee supervising OPEC have shown that not a single OPEC country has increased oil production or changed oil prices.

Referring to the OPEC production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels which was approved by OPEC members, the oil minister said: The official OPEC oil prices were fixed to improve prices of individual oil shipments or oil sold outside OPEC. As a result, oil prices have been increased by half a dollar a barrel.

Regarding the conspiracies that were aimed at OPEC, Gharazi said despite Washington's intentions and goals which are basically aimed at destroying OPEC and despite the measures taken by the United States last year to prevent certain OPEC member countries from selling their oil, this organization is capable of defending itself and safeguarding its interests.

He added that the Islamic Republic of Iran stresses once again its concern for the cohesion and unity of OPEC in production and prices.

Head of War Refugees Foundation Resigns

LD141439 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] According to a report by our correspondent, the supervisor of the Foundation for the Affairs of the War Refugees submitted his resignation to the interior minister today. The text of his letter of resignation follow.

The honorable interior minister, Brother Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq-Nuri:

With greetings to the great leader of the Islamic Revolution inspired by the blood of the martyrs, and greetings and thanks for the ungrudging support that you have given to your servant, in accordance with your religious duty, I request that you accept my resignation for reasons given below:

1) To preserve the honor of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, which is the result of the blood of thousands of martyrs, in order to be engaged in important and dangerous tasks, as deserved by the blood of the martyrs, and to erase any form of ambiguity and conflict, and to create more unity in that principal pillar of the system of the Islamic Republic.

2) Because of the inadequacy of the law concerning the foundation for the war-stricken, the imbalance between my responsibilities and authority, and the distortion of the duties of the supervisor of the foundation and the supreme council in said law.

3) In order to deprive counterrevolutionary and hypocritical agents of any opportunity to create a rift among the Islamic Republic authorities, and to prove my solidarity with and respect for the blood of the martyrs of Islam, especially the innocent martyr Beheshti, who were sacrificed in the path of the revival of righteousness and the correct revival of Islam's law.

I hope that the combatants for the path of righteousness and virtue will be victorious and proud on all the trenches of faith against blasphemy and hypocrisy and bestow the blessing of servitude to the Islamic Republic on all of us.

[Signed] Mahmud Karimi-Nuri, supervisor of the Foundation for the Affairs of the Refugees of the Imposed War.

According to our correspondent's report, the interior minister accepted the resignation of the supervisor of the Foundation for the Affairs of the Refugees of the Imposed War, in a reply as follows:

My dear, committed Brother Karimi-Nuri:

While praising and thanking you for your round-the-clock efforts at the Foundation for the Affairs of the Refugees of the Imposed War and your sincere services to the deprived war refugee brothers and sisters, I accept your resignation. I hope that you will be successful in the continuation of your service to Islam and the Islamic Revolution. No doubt you will remain at your post until the foundation situation is clarified.

[Signed] 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, minister of interior

Khomeyni Appoints New Head to Foundation

GF150740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has appointed Aqa-e Haj Sheykh Hassan Sane'i as the supervisor of the 15 Khordad Foundation. The text of the imam's degree follows.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Hojjat ol-Eslam Aqa-e Haj Sheykh Hassan Sane'i, may God keep you safe, I hereby appoint you as supervisor of the 15 Khordad Foundation. This foundation is responsible for lookingafter the condition of the oppressed and deprived. It is apparent that more attention and care needs to be paid to the families of the respected martyrs and handicapped. Therefore, I hope that with the confi

dence and trust I have in you, the affairs of the foundation will be administered in the best possible way.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni, 14 July 1983

Khomeyni Receives Families of Martyrs 14 July

GF141500 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, today received members of the families of the martyrs of 7 Tir, members of the committee in charge of the ceremonies for 7 Tir, and a group of families from the Tehran martyrs.

During this meeting, Karubi, the imam's representative and the official in charge of the Martyrs Foundation, praised the services and sacrifices of the 7 Tir martyrs which are [dedicated] to the Islamic nation.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,376

LD141737 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,376 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Fire exchange in the southern operational sector continued yesterday and the heavy weapons fire of the combatants of Islam on each front halted the movements and activities of the Saddamist forces. Thanks to the fire of our combative units on the enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud, eight slit trenches of the Saddamists were destroyed and a number of enemy troops were either killed or wounded.

A concentration of the enemy's infantry troops came under fire. Several trucks carrying Iraqi troops were spotted while they were deploying forces on one of the southern fronts; several infantry troops of the enemy were also spotted on this front carrying out patrol operations and digging trenches. Our forces opened fire and halted activities of the enemy troops.

Fire exchange continued in the western operational sector yesterday and the fire was more intense in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region. On various western fronts, in the course of infiltrating operations by our forces, a number of the enemy troops were hit by the fire of our warriors and killed.

Yesterday, the residential districts of Abadan came under sporadic heavy weight weapon fire of the enemy. As a result six houses and shops were demolished.

[Signed] Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran

Deputy Foreign Minister Meets Syrian Official

GF141632 Tehran IRNA in English 1607 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] Tehran, July 14, IRNA — Taha Bali, Syrian deputy minister of economics and commerce, today held talks with Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabali, deputy foreign minister in charge of economics and international affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the meeting, the two parties discussed political, cultural and commercial issues in connection with the two countries. Stressing on the mutual economic relations, they also urged expansion of trade exchanges between the two countries.

The parties, also, talked about the opening of Syrian commercial exihibition in Tehran.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister Arrives 14 July

GF141657 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] Tehran, July 14, IRNA — The Bangladeshi Foreign Minister Amin ar-Rahman Shamsud Doha arrived here today and was welcomed by the Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Indonesian and Nigerian senior embassy officials, Bangladesh charge d'affaires in Tehran and the Iranian ambassador to Bangladesh.

Talking to IRNA Shamsud Doha expressed pleasure over his visit to Iran and conveyed the friendly feelings of the Muslim people of his country towards the people of Iran.

Continuing he said in his meetings with the Islamic Republic officials he would discuss various regional and international issues and also issues of mutual interest between the two countries. He added that his meetings would mark the opening of a new phase in the relations between the two countries.

Concluding the Bangladeshi foreign minister hoped that his visit to the Islamic Republic would be productive and conducive to the desired ends.

Velayati, Doha Hold Talks

GF150640 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Bangladesh Foreign Minister Shamsud Doha, who is currently visiting the Islamic Republic of Iran, met with our country's Foreign Minister Velayati yesterday and began talks.

In this meeting which lasted an hour, the two ministers discussed and exchanged ideas on different topics. The Bangladesh foreign minister, while expressing his pleasure on visiting Iran and stressing the expansion of political, economic, and cultural ties

between the two countries, said that the strength of the Islamic countries is their solidarity. If we work separately, he said, we will be weak.

Velayati emphasized the role of Iran after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, adding that Islamic law is the basis of our administration and therefore we pay attention to special relations with Islamic countries and we consider Islamic solidarity to be one of the vital requirements of the Islamic world. Velayati further said that we pay special attention to relations with Bangladesh because both are Muslim and have deep historical and cultural ties and common growth and development experiences.

Prime Minister Discusses First 5-Year Plan

LD112239 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The first 5-year plan of the Islamic Republic of Iran was approved today by the Cabinet, which met under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. The meeting also reviewed latest developments in the country and the region.

In an interview given to our correspondent afterward, the prime minister commented on the issues discussed at today's meeting: Fortunately, after more than 1 year of efforts and endeavors by all sectors as well as the plan and budget organization, we approved the country's 5-year plan, which, God willing, will be presented to the Majlis once it is properly put in order. The prime minister added: This is the first plan being prepared under the Islamic Republic system; it serves as a springboard and a healthy economic move. We hope that the plan will become a source of goodness and blessing for the government and the system.

Commenting on the major sections of the government's 5-year plan, the prime minister said: Priority has been given to agriculture; we are trying not to spend our foreign exchange revenues for consumer expenditures. With regard to the underprivileged areas, we will devote more attention to them. Referring to the practical aspects of the declared stands, the prime minister said: Fortunately, being alert and having Koranic tendencies, the hezbollah nation will smooth the way for us to take the necessary steps.

Radio Iran Cites Dissatisfaction, Clashes

GF081936 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 8 Jul 83

[Text] Iranian society is on the verge of an uprising. The protest demonstrations against Ruhollah Khomeyni's regime have grown larger and clashes between the people and the armed religionists in many parts of the country indicate the large-scale dissatisfaction and disenchantment of the nation against the mullahs' regime.

During the past few days in Tehran, sporadic clashes took place between the disgusted people and the regime's security officials which resulted in some casualties. Shortages of bread, spiraling prices of essentials such as water, power, and telephones and the disconnection of water in many parts of the country are the main factors in this national protest.

Iranians who have arrived from Iran say that people have reached the edge of their endurance due to high prices, hoarding, unemployment, and economic pressure. They have no patience with the pressures of this despotic, reactionary, and illogical regime.

The same report adds: The dimensions of protest and wrathful clamor against Khomeyni in the impoverished and deprived areas of the country are greater than at the (?centers). The deprived members of the society who are filled with antipathy and abhorrence due to poverty, deprivation, hunger, and unemployemnt and the bitter and tragic consequences of the war are demanding the toppling of the Islamic regime in loud and articulate voices.

Following armed clashes among people in the cities of Arak, Yaramin, Tehran, Shiraz, Dezful, Gorgan, Mashhad, and Tabriz, reports have been received of a violent clash in Tehran's Javadiyeh District between the people and the guards. During a street protest a few days ago, a large number of guards and armed religionists were killed and injured.

Guards' Vehicles Burned

GF101450 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] According to reports we have received from across the country, the wave of complaints by the deprived people in the poorer areas of the country continues to expand. In one case, the deprived people of one of the districts of Tehran burned three vehicles carrying guards on patrol, forcing its armed occupants to flee. People are complaining about the high price of food, shortage of water, and repeated blackouts.

Radio Iran Says Religious Group Disbanded

GF111848 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 11 Jul 83

[Text] The organization of Mojahedin-e Enqelab-e Eslami, led by Behzad Nabavi, has been disbanded by the pro-Kashani faction. The organization was operated by Behzad Nabavi, Jalaleddin Farsi, alias Hekmatollah Barancheshmeh, and other political gangsters of the regime who carried out terrorist actions since the start of Khomeyni's blight. Many of the religious and nonreligious opponents of the regime of Ruhollah Khomeyni were eliminated by this organization. It also followed the gangster style in its obstinate arrest and detention of nationalist patriotic forces. The organization was forced into withdrawing following the start of the power struggle between the religious factions, and its officials were accused of not following the imam's line.

In the statement issued by Kashani supporters concerning the dissolution of the organization, the imami faction has again been put forth as the sole anti-imperialist force and the other factions such as the hojjatiyeh and the moderate clergy were vehemently attacked.

With the announcement of the dissolution of the organization of Mojahedin-e Enqelab-e Eslami, it has been said in Tehran that the minister of agriculture, Salamati, and the minister of housing, Gonabadi, who are considered to be allies of Behzad Nabavi in the Cabinet, are likely to be dropped by the imamis. Another report indicates that following the purge of Mahdavi-Kani from the Council of Guardians, members of Musavi-Tabrizi's gang are gradully replacing Mahdavi-Kani's gang in committees.

Free Voice of Iran Reports KDP Statement

GF101816 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 10 Jul 83

[Text] The Kurdish fighters, in an attack against Mahabad, have managed to capture a number of the regime's guards.

The Iranian Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] in a statement also reported that it has handed over 50 prisoners to the Red Cross to be returned to Iran. [as heard] Apparently these were members of the Mahabad police. The Kurdish fighers are still holding the 34 guards captured in Mahabad.